

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

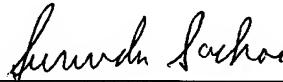
Favorable reconsideration of this application, as presently amended, is respectfully requested.

The present Preliminary Amendment is submitted to correct minor informalities in the original specification and to delete a limitation from claim 11. The claim amendments are not believed to narrow the claims in any aspect.

The present application is believed to be condition for a full and thorough examination on the merits. An early and favorable consideration of the present application is hereby respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Gregory J. Maier
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 25,599

Customer Number

22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413 -2220
(OSMMN 06/04)
GJM/SS:aif

I:\ATTY\SNS\260903US-PR.DOC

Surinder Sachar
Registration No. 34,423